



# ANN LANDERS

## It's No Excuse

Dear Ann Landers: Do you know that the majority of people in this country are dumb, careless, lazy and, they love to chisel? I retired just in time. I don't think I could have survived another 30 days of dealing with the lousy American public.

As the head of a repair service department I met just about everybody. This is what I learned: All kinds of people—the well-educated, the ignorant, the rich, the poor, the old and the young—they all want something for nothing. Furthermore, they can't read or they don't want to. They ignore instructions and assume that the rules were written for other people.

They bring in electric coffeemakers, toasters, irons, portable radios, stereos—and they want free service. "It's covered by the warranty," they announce as if they have uttered some magic words. When I asked, "Where is the warranty?" they looked shocked and replied, "I threw it out. I never keep that junk." My next question, "Do you have a bill of sale?" produced such responses as, "Who do you think you're talking to? Are you trying to say I stole this radio?"

I've been called every rotten name in the book and several names not in any book. Some people think the dirtier they talk to the salesperson, the more intimidated he will become and the better their chances of getting something for nothing.

Please print my letter, Ann. Maybe it will shake up a few million people. And it might make life a little easier for the unfortunate woman who took my job.

—LIBERATED AT LAST

Dear Lib: Customers bringing in broken appliances are understandably irritated and belligerent. This is no justification for abusing salespeople, however, and I hope all the rude and thoughtless customers will take note.

Dear Ann Landers: Our college sophomore daughter is going steady with a law student. His name is Jason. A few weeks ago Cynthia wore a pantsuit and her boyfriend didn't like it. He told her to go put on a skirt. She refused. Finally he said, "O.K., you win, but this isn't the end of it."

Last night Jason showed up in a skirt. My husband answered the door and almost collapsed. You can't imagine the shock of seeing a 6'1," 200-pounder in knee socks (hairy legs showing) — wearing a plaid jumper with pleats. When Cynthia saw him she gasped. Jason greeted her with, "It's a killt."

They left to fight it out in private. My husband thinks Cynthia should not have gone with him. I don't know what to think. Do you?—HUNG JURY

Dear Jury: It sounds like a killt to me, Madame, in which case, yes, it's a respectable outfit. Somewhat unconventional unless worn to a clan meeting, but respectable, nevertheless.

When romantic glances turn to warm embraces is it true love or chemistry? Send for the booklet "Love Or Sex and How to Tell the Difference," by Ann Landers. Enclose a long, stamped, self-addressed envelope and 35 cents in coin with your request. Ann Landers will be glad to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of the Press-Herald, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope. (c) 1969, Publishers—Hall Syndicate

## Couple Robbed by Bandit with Knife

A Torrance couple was robbed at knifepoint early Sunday morning as they were leaving a social function at the Elks Lodge, 1829 Abalone Ave. The suspect got away with \$175.

Charles Bright, 41, and his wife Patricia, 38, of 1751-E Cabrillo Ave., were leaving the clubhouse at 1:15 a.m. They opened their car door to discover a burglar had entered the vehicle and was sitting in the drivers' seat.

The couple told police the man held a knife to Bright's neck and said, "Put your hands on the car or I'll kill you."

The suspect then ordered both victims to place their wallets on the car. Bright complied, but Mrs. Bright said she didn't have a wallet. The suspect told her to open her purse, and then grabbed the loose cash.

The suspect escaped running south on Abalone Avenue.



**A WHALE OF A JOB . . .** That's what you call having to move, vaccinate and take blood samples from three killer whales. The Marineland crew did just that last week, with the help of skin-divers, a custom-built stretcher and a huge crane. Corky, a 13-foot, 3,000-pound female, is shown here awaiting her re-entry into the killer whale coliseum following her regular checkup. The three Marineland whales, Corky, Snorky and Orky, weigh a combined total of 14,000 pounds. And that's not just another fish story. (Press-Herald Photo)

## Mystery Shrouds Death

The semi-nude body of a 19-year-old Torrance girl was found Saturday morning sprawled in the living room of her apartment at 3505 Artesia Blvd., Apt. 10.

Police said the body of Kathleen L. Maxwell was found lying face up in a spread-eagle position. Her white nightgown was pulled up, police reported.

The time and cause of death have not yet been determined.

Miss Maxwell's body was discovered when a friend came to visit at 11:40 a.m. Saturday and received no response after ringing the doorbell. The apartment manager, who noted the victim had only lived there a short time, opened the door with a master key.

Police said the screen on the window south of the apartment door had been damaged.

Miss Maxwell was employed at McDonnell-Douglas Corp. in Long Beach.

## Square Dance Class Slated

The Dancers Choice Square Dance Club will offer classes for beginners at the Square Dance Center, 1953 1/2 W. Carson St.

Classes will begin Friday and remain open for enrollment through March 7. The classes will meet each Friday from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

## Count Marco Let Your Man Live a Little

Physicians in London have warned that husbands are dying on an average of five years younger than women, and "it is certain the gap will widen."

The reason: Too much housework — for the husbands.

In an age where two packs of cigarettes a day may mean a loss of 10 years of his life, a bus-

## Debate Team Wins Honors In Long Beach

The El Camino College debate team of John Mangun and Ed Hamilton has won second place trophy in championship debate at the Long Beach State College Junior College Tournament.

Thirty colleges from California, Utah, Idaho, and Texas were represented at the two-day tournament.

Mangun also received the second place trophy in the extemporaneous speaking event.

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## Civic Center Area Zoning Changes Given Approval

City Councilmen took a red pencil to the proposed Civic Center overlay zone ordinance last week as roughly two dozen residents within the zone attended a council meeting to register their objections to the plan.

After tentatively deleting many of the sections of the proposed ordinance, councilmen agreed to refer the overlay back to City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier for redraft.

Major changes were:

- Reduction in the size of the overlay.
- Deletion of sections dealing with imprisonment for infringement of regulations;
- Deletion of sections requiring the approval of the Planning Commission for all building permits within the area;
- Deletion of many subsections declaring certain structures and conditions to be "public nuisances."

PLANNING Director Charles Shartle explained to the council

that an overlay zone is a zone imposed over the existing zone, which in this case is primarily single family residential. The overlay does not change the zone, but merely adds more stringent standards to the present zone.

Shartle said the purpose of the overlay is to prevent deterioration and blight in an area where such blight might easily crop up. Shabby ball bond houses, for instance, are likely to appear around public functions such as courthouses and police stations. Addressing the council, Betty Shield of 3025 Opal St., said the ordinance would not be beneficial to affected residents since it would impose penalties for infringement of the ordinance and would enforce more stringent abatement periods than for other citizens. She termed the ordinance undemocratic.

ROBERT WHITE, who lives within the proposed overlay on Torrance Boulevard, said he is against more restrictions on property and believes the overlay will tend to depreciate property values. He said the ordinance would keep him from pulling up a potted plant without getting Planning Commission approval first.

Mayor Albert Isen explained that the city is concerned about the problem of absentee ownership, noting that some owners would let their property get run-down in order to force a change of zone.

Isen commented that the overlay zone was too big, however, and suggested that it be reduced to include only that property fronting on Torrance Boulevard and Maple Avenue in the vicinity of the Civic Center.

## Free Booklet Lists Tips for Good Marriage

Printing of 160,000 copies of a booklet, "Blueprint for a Successful Marriage," has been authorized, County Supervisor Burton W. Chace said today.

The booklet, edited by a committee of clergymen, will be distributed with marriage licenses when they are issued by the County Clerk. Cost of the reprinting will be \$6,800.

"In the past two years, some 120,000 copies of the booklet were given out with marriage licenses," Chace said.

## A Year As a City

# Carson to Observe Birthday Saturday

The city of Carson's First Anniversary celebration — probably the biggest city birthday party ever held in this area — will sparkle with personalities famous throughout the state when the big event is held Saturday.

Regis Philbin, popular master of ceremonies on TV Channel 7's "Joey Bishop Show" will be Grand Marshal of the mammoth parade which will kick-off the day-long activities at 11 a.m.

The 2 1/2-mile parade route begins at Carson High School, 223rd and Main Streets, then proceeds south on Main to Sepulveda Boulevard, east on Sepulveda Boulevard to Avalon Boulevard, then north on Avalon to 228th Street, where it will disband after it turns into Watson Center Road.

Official reviewing stand, where dignitaries will gather as they finish the route, will be located on the west side of Avalon at 228th Street near City Hall.

FOLLOWING Grand Marshal Philbin's car will be such governmental dignitaries as Congressman Glenn Anderson, State Senators Joseph Kennick and Ralph Dills, Assemblymen Vincent Thomas and Mike Cullen, and County Supervisors Burton Chace and Kenneth Hahn. Mayors of Torrance, Gardena, Compton, Bell Gardens, and the City of Commerce will also appear.

Carson's own Los Caballeros Youth Band their Maracha Girls' Banner Girls and Cape Girls, will be host band for the day.

From the sports world will come Raul Rojas and Andy Heilman, noted local boxers, and television fight announcer Jimmy Lennon. Television entertainers accepting invitations include Jay North of "Maya" and "Dennis the Menace" series; James Almanzar of "Here Comes the Bride;" young Darby Hinton of "Daniel Boone;" and Kellie Flanagan and Harlan Carragher of "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir." Even the Kentucky Colonel of TV and fried chicken fame will be participating.

TWELVE floats have been entered by such local organizations as Carson Elks Lodge 2385, Keystone Woman's Club, Victoria Park Little League, Carson

Sea Rangers, Wilmington-Carson-Dominguez YMCA, Brave Eagles of Woodcraft Rangers, Carson High Boosters Club, Carson Beautification Committee, Carson Woman's Club, Cub Pack 319-C, Carson Jaycees and Carson Chamber of Commerce.

Other mobile units will be the half-size and one-third size fire engines from Los Angeles County Fire Department and an antique installation truck from Pacific Telephone Co.

Some of the parade's 2,000 participants will travel considerable distance to take part. Among these will be the Cycle-delics of Ontario, Bell Gardens Lancer Band and Lance-ettes Drill Team, U.S. Marine Corps Band from Camp Pendleton, Starlighters Baton Team of San Diego, La Belles Twirling Corps of La Puente, Boy Scout

Drum and Bugle Corps of Brea, and the Checkmates from Pasadena.

MARTIAL music and entertainment will be very much in evidence. Accepting invitations to march were the Compton High Band and drill team, Compton High Air Force Jr. ROTC drill team; the 93-member South High Band, the Castanets Drill Team, Bugle Corps and Color Guard, the Cor-Vic Hollywood Entertainers La Quieneses Girls drill team, the Miles Rogers family Wonderwheels Unicycle Team, the famous Clowns of Long Beach Elks Lodge 888 and 80 members of the Carson Junior All-American Football teams.

Thousands of spectators are expected to join the afternoon festivities when the Fiesta begins at 2 p.m. on the Watson Industrial Tract grounds opposite the reviewing stand. A barbecue dinner will be available to the public, as well as food and refreshments at various booths sponsored by local organizations.

Among other types of booths will be one presented by the Claretian Fathers of Dominguez Seminary where pottery made by the Fathers will be sold and artifacts from the seminary will be shown. Carnival rides will add fun and gaiety to the afternoon's program, which will also feature continuous entertainment.

CARSON'S Fiesta will be topped off with a gigantic fireworks display, starting at about 6:30 p.m. ending with a huge fiery tribute to the city's birthday. The fireworks show will be donated by the Red Devil Fireworks Co. of Compton, and supervised by Bob Serber, general manager.

The day's activities will take on a more formal note when several hundred residents and notables gather in the Steamfitters Local 250 Hall at 190th and Figueroa Streets for the "Candlelight Ball," beginning at 9 p.m. A brief program will serve to mark the city's first birthday and introduce principal guests.

Two major prizes, donated by local organizations, will be given away, and a buffet will be served. Dancing to the music of The Continentals, a local musical group, will prevail for the remainder of the evening.

## Dancers Featured In Drama

Seven Torrance residents will perform in the Pasadena Playhouse College of Theatre Arts Mainstage for the six performances of "The Adventures of Harlequin" this week.

This is the third in a series of Children's Theatre plays presented by the college this season. Performances are scheduled Thursday and Friday at 4 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday at 1 and 3 p.m.

Dorothy La Spina of Torrance is choreographer for "Harlequin" which is directed by Buddy Youngren. The dancers are the Misses Janet Francis, Jerri Fran Pierce, Laurie Sanders, Candi La Spina, Cynthia Puruis and the Messrs. John Scott and Chuck Reynolds. Jo Ann Memento of Torrance plays the role of Isabella in the production.

## Meeting Slated

Members of the Torrance Water Commission will hold a regular meeting tomorrow. The session will be held at 7 p.m. in Room 214, City Hall, 3031 Torrance Blvd.

## Profile: Dr. Robert Ford

# He Built West High School From the Ground Floor Up

There are easier jobs than that of creating a full-sized high school from three existing schools. Dr. Robert R. Ford, principal of West High School, did exactly that — and in doing so created one of the most modern, attractive high schools in Southern California.

Born May 17, 1919, in Ohio, he attended Lorain, Ohio, High School and was graduated in the top 10 per cent of his class in 1937. While in high school, he participated in choir, forensics, and several operettas.

His education was interrupted by World War II in 1941, while he was working for tuition to attend Wooster College in Ohio. He worked as an inspector of Army ordinance for a year and then entered the Navy's V-7 officer training program at Baldwin-Wallace College.

He received his commission as an ensign in the Naval Reserve in 1944 after attending Harvard University School of Business Administration.

Dr. Ford was offered a full naval commission in 1946, but turned it down to complete his education and raise his family in one place. He had married his wife, Virginia, whom he met at Wooster College, in 1944.

Dr. Ford earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from Wooster in 1947. He came to California that year, and was employed at Buffum's Department Stores as an administrator. He also served as a commercial teller for Bank of America while taking graduate courses at the University of Southern California.

In 1950, Dr. Ford received his Master's Degree in secondary



DR. ROBERT FORD

education from USC. His first teaching position was at Washington Junior High School in Long Beach, where he taught seventh, eighth, and ninth grades. He also taught bookkeeping at Long Beach City College in the evening.

He received his doctor's degree from USC in 1957 and was named principal of Washington Junior High. Earlier, he had served at Roosevelt Junior High School and was assistant to the superintendent in the Bellflower School District.

An interview with TUSD superintendent Dr. J. H. Hull turned into a position in 1961. He was employed as principal of the as yet un-built West High School and served a semester as vice principal, instruction, at

North High while coordinating the opening of West High.

Among his new duties at the infant high school were coordinating the studies programs there, commissioning all four grade levels. Starting a new high school with all four grades was a relatively new idea, Dr. Ford explains, for it involved pulling seniors out of high schools they had attended for three years.

"The first few months were not without problems," Dr. Ford asserts, "but the students responded very well and it wasn't long before West High became a separate, cohesive entity. West was a functioning organization from the very first day of school."

Dr. Ford is amazed and gratified at the phenomenal growth West High has been able to sustain. "The original plan was to support around 2,500 students," he recalls, "but that figure has been revised to 3,200."

In line with this projection, a new wing containing 16 classrooms will be started next month. There were to be two wings adjoining this one, but West will have to wait for a new school bond issue before funds are available to complete this addition.

The Fords, who live in Long Beach, have four children: Larry, 21; Loren, 20; Murray, 12; and Marla, 10. Dr. Ford's hobbies include gardening, theatre, photography — "on a purely amateur level," he insists — and attending his son's Little League and Pop Warner games.

"I've got a yen to go down to Baja and do some deep sea fishing for marlin," he confesses, "but I never seem to get away."